generally limited in scope and identified as a lower priority than funding remediation for existing noncompatible development. Further, funding for such new noncompatible development may only be anticipated in the latter years of an airport's part 150 program when it may not be needed because of shrinking noise contours resulting from the national transition to the use of Stage 3 aircraft.

Since part 150 is a voluntary program, each airport operator has the discretion to make its own determinations regarding the impact of a revised policy on its noise compatibility program. If an impact is found, each operator could determine whether to immediately amend its program during the allowed transition period or to wait until the program is otherwise updated. However, any remedial land use measures for noncompatible development that are allowed to occur within the area of an airport's noise exposure maps after the effective date of a revised policy would not be approved under part 150 and would have to be funded locally, since they would no longer be eligible for AIP assistance from the noise set aside.

Accordingly beginning (not more than 12 months from the date of issuance of a revised policy), the FAA will approve under part 150 only remedial land use measures for existing noncompatible development and only preventive land use measures in areas of potential new noncompatible development. As of the same date, criteria for determining AIP eligibility under the noise set aside that are consistent with this policy will be applied by the FAA. Specifically, no remedial land use measures for new noncompatible development that occur after the effective date of the revised policy be eligible for AIP funding under the noise set aside, regardless of previous FAA determinations under part 150, the status of an individual airport's part 150 program, or whether the project is eligible for AIP funding under the noise set aside without a part 150 program.

Alternatives to the Proposed Policy

Depending on the comments received in response to this proposal, the FAA will consider several alternatives to the proposed policy revision, as listed below. All comments received on these alternatives, as well as other suggestions, will be considered prior to the adoption of any policy revision. Comments should focus on the extent to which an alternative would assist in preventing the development of new noncompatible land uses around airports and in assuring cost effective use of Federal funds spent on land use measures for noise purposes.

1. Retain the present policy of approving and funding under part 150 remedial land use measures without regard to the date the noncompatible development occurs.

2. Retain the present policy of approving and funding under part 150 remedial land use measures for those areas not under the control of either the airport of the airport's sponsor and for which the airport operator has taken earnest but unsuccessful steps to persuade the controlling jurisdiction to prevent the addition of new noncompatible development. New noncompatible development in areas under the land use control jurisdiction of either the airport or the airport operator would not be approved under part 150 nor be eligible for funding under the AIP.

3. Retain the present policy only with respect to noncompatible land uses that will remain within the DNL 65 dB contour after the transition to an all Stage 3 fleet.

4. Retain the present policy with respect to part 150 approval, but eliminate Federal funding eligibility for remedial measures for new noncompatible development.

5. Implement the proposed policy on an airport-by-airport basis, selecting either the date of the FAA's acceptance of an airport's noise exposure maps or the date of the FAA's approval of an airport's noise compatibility program under part 150. Includes consideration of whether implementation should be retroactive or prospective.

Issued in Washington, DC on March 14, 1995.

Paul R. Dykeman,

Acting Director of Environment and Energy.

[FR Doc. 95–6754 Filed 3–17–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–M

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Customs Service

19 CFR Part 134

RIN 1515–AB68

Country of Origin Marking Requirements for Watches

AGENCY: Customs Service, Department of Treasury.

ACTION: Advance notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This document provides advance notice of a proposal to amend the Customs Regulations to prescribe specific rules regarding the country of origin marking of watches to ensure that the marking is conspicuous and legible. The purpose of this document is to assist in determining whether a rulemaking is needed to ensure a uniform standard for conspicuous and legible country of origin marking for watches, and if needed, the contents of that rulemaking.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before May 4, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Written comments (preferably in triplicate) may be addressed to the Regulations Branch, Office of Regulations and Rulings, U.S. Customs Service, Franklin Court, 1301 Constitution Ave., NW., Washington, DC. 20229. Comments submitted may be inspected at the Regulations Branch, Office of Regulations and Rulings, U.S. Customs Service, Franklin Court, 1099 14th Street, Suite 4000, Washington, DC.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Burton Schlissel, Special Classification and Marking Branch, Office of Regulations and Rulings (202–482–6980).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 304 of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (19 U.S.C. 1304), provides that, unless excepted, every article of foreign origin (or its container) imported into the U.S. shall be marked in a conspicuous place as legibly, indelibly, and permanently as the nature of the article (or its container) will permit, in such manner as to indicate to the ultimate purchaser in the U.S. the English name of the country of origin of the article. Part 134, Customs Regulations (19 CFR part 134), implements the country of origin marking requirements and exceptions of 19 U.S.C. 1304. Under § 134.41(b), Customs Regulations (19 CFR 134.41(b)), a country of origin marking is considered conspicuous if the ultimate purchaser in the United States is able to find the marking easily and read it without strain.

It has come to the attention of the Customs Service that over the years watches have been imported into the United States with very tiny country of origin markings. Usually these markings are in very small letters on the bottom of the dial (face) of the watch. Generally, these markings are exceptionally difficult to find and read. In fact, the country of origin markings on many watches are so tiny that a magnifying glass is needed in order to read them. Country of origin markings on watches which are so difficult to find and read

are not conspicuous or legible and are not acceptable country of origin marking under 19 U.S.C. 1304. Customs is reviewing its policy to ensure that the country of origin marking on watches is legible and conspicuous.

On March 10, 1993, Customs published a general notice in the Customs Bulletin and Decisions (27 Cust. Bull. Vol. 10, p. 31) indicating that Customs did not intend to permit the continued importation of watches into the United States unless they were conspicuously and legibly marked with their country of origin. The document further indicated that Customs was proposing stricter enforcement of conspicuous country of origin marking requirements for watches. Customs requested comments on proposed stricter enforcement and when the stricter enforcement should go into effect. On May 5, 1993, Customs extended the comment period in a document published in the Customs Bulletin and Decisions (27 Cust. Bull. Vol. 18, p. 13). The comment period closed on June 9, 1993. While Customs has concluded that there should be stricter enforcement of what is legible and conspicuous regarding the country of origin marking requirements for watches on a case-by-case basis, Customs is now considering an amendment to the Customs Regulations incorporating such standards in order to ensure a uniform standard for conspicuous and legible country of origin marking for watches.

Factors Which May Be the Subject of a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in Connection With Specific Country of Origin Marking of Watches

The Customs Service is considering issuing a notice of proposed rulemaking to amend the Customs Regulations to prescribe specific rules regarding the country of origin marking of watches. It is noted that the special marking requirements of U.S. Note 4, chapter 91, Harmonized Tariff Schedules of the United States (HTSUS), that are applicable to watches are not the subject of this advance notice of proposed rulemaking. Among the factors which may be the subject of the proposed rules are the size of the marking, the location of the marking, whether the marking stands out, and the legibility of the marking.

Size and Legibility of Marking

Generally, in determining whether a watch is marked properly, Customs considers, on a case-by-case basis, whether the marking is legible and conspicuous. Customs believes that a marking on a watch which has a type size of 3 points is acceptable. (A point is a unit of measurement approximately equal to 0.01384 inches or nearly 1/72 inch and all type sizes are multiples of this unit.) Whether the marking stands out is dependent on where it appears in relationship to the other print on the watch and whether it is in contrasting letters to the background. The legibility of the marking is determined by the clarity of the letters and whether the ultimate purchaser is able to read the letters of the marking without strain. Whether a particular marking meets the conspicuous requirement of 19 CFR 134.41 and 19 U.S.C 1304 will depend on a combination of these factors.

Location and Method of Marking

The marking should be in a location where the ultimate purchaser could expect to find the marking or where he/she could easily notice it from a casual inspection. Although traditionally the country of origin marking has appeared on the dial (face) of a watch, there is no requirement that the marking appear in that location.

The marking may also appear on the back of the watch case, unless the watch is or will be packaged for retail sale in a manner which would prevent the ultimate purchaser from seeing the marking before buying the watch.

In addition, the country of origin marking can be done through a variety of different methods such as die stamping, etching, engraving, or by using a sticker or hang tag. Any method of marking is sufficient as long as it is permanent enough to ensure that the marking will stay on the watch through normal handling until it reaches the ultimate purchaser. No matter where the marking appears or what method of marking is used, the marking must be large enough and sufficiently clear so that the ultimate purchaser of the watch can easily find it and read it with the unaided eye.

Whether a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking With Regard to Specific Country of Origin Marking of Watches Should Be Issued: Specific Issues for Consideration

Customs is requesting interested parties to submit comments regarding specific standards which would ensure that the country of origin marking on watches is legible, conspicuous, and permanent. Relevant comments were received in response to the general notice published in the Customs Bulletin and Decisions (27 Cust. Bull., Vol. 10, p. 31.) However, in addition to comments regarding the nature of specific standards, interested parties are also invited to comment on the following issues before Customs decides whether to propose rulemaking on this matter:

(1) Is there a need for Customs to initiate a proposed rulemaking regarding country of origin marking of watches or should questions of whether watches are marked properly continue to be determined on a case-by-case basis?

(2) Whether there are current abuses in the country of origin marking of imported watches.

(3) Whether Customs should prescribe, by regulation, certain type size and style specifications for the country of origin marking of watches. If so, whether the regulations should specify one type size for all watches, or different type sizes depending upon the size of the watch. If one type size is prescribed for all watches, what type size should be recommended and why?

(4) Whether consumer behaviors and attitudes toward country of origin marking of watches can be documented with studies or surveys. If so, how much time would be needed for a study or survey to be conducted and for the data to be analyzed?

(5) If Customs goes forward with a notice of proposed rulemaking, what should be a sufficient period of time for public comment?

(6) If Customs issues a notice of proposed rulemaking, should a public hearing be held in connection with such proposed rulemaking?

(7) If Customs proposes and adopts new country of origin marking regulations, what would be an appropriate time frame between the publication of the final rule and the effective date of such regulations?

(8) What other issues should be addressed in the proposed rulemaking in order to afford a full opportunity for public comment?

Comments

In order to assist Customs in determining whether to proceed with a notice of proposed rulemaking to prescribe rules regarding the country of origin marking for watches, and the appropriate type size and style specifications for such marking, this notice invites written comments on the issues raised in this document as well as any other issues in connection with this matter. Comments which were previously submitted in response to the general notice published in the Customs Bulletin and Decisions need not be resubmitted, as they will be fully considered in any final determination in this matter.

Comments submitted will be available for public inspection in accordance with

the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), § 1.4, Treasury Department Regulations (31 CFR 1.4), and § 103.11(b), Customs Regulations (19 CFR 103.11(b)), on regular business days between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the Regulations Branch, Office of Regulations and Rulings, U.S. Customs Service, 1099 14th Street, NW., Suite 4000, Washington, DC.

Approved: February 24, 1995

Michael H. Lane,

Acting Commissioner of Customs.

Dennis M. O'Connell,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

[FR Doc. 95–6760 Filed 3–17–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4820–02–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing

24 CFR Chapter IX

[Docket No. N–95–3858; FR–3647–N–03]

RIN 2577–AB44

Vacancy Rule: Notice of Second and Third Meeting of Negotiated Rulemaking Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Department has established a Negotiated Rulemaking Advisory Committee to discuss and negotiate a proposed rule that would change the current method of determining the payment of operating subsidies to vacant public housing units. The Committee met for the first time on March 7–9, 1995, in Washington, D.C. This notice announces the time and place of the second and third Committee meetings, which will be open to the public.

DATES: The second meeting of the Committee will take place April 4–5, 1995, and the third meeting will take place on May 2–3, 1995. On April 4, 1995, the meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and run until completion; on April 5, 1995, the meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and run until approximately 5:00 p.m. On May 2, 1995, the meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and run until completion; on May 3, 1995, the meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and run until approximately 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The second and third meetings of the Committee will be held at the Channel Inn Hotel; 650 Water Street, Southwest; Washington, D.C. 20024.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: John T. Comerford, Director, Financial Management Division, Public and Indian Housing, Room 4212, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 431 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC 20410–0500; telephone (202) 708–1872, or (202) 708–0850 (TDD). (These telephone numbers are not toll-free.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On February 24, 1995, HUD published a notice of establishment of a Negotiated Rulemaking Advisory Committee to discuss and negotiate a proposed rule that would change the current method of determining the payment of operating subsidies to vacant public housing units (60 FR 10339) (''February 24 notice''). The February 24 notice also announced the first meeting of this committee, which was held on March 7–9, 1995, in Washington, D.C.

The members of the Committee are as follows:

Housing Agencies

- Housing Authority of the City of Houston, TX.
- Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, Cleveland, OH.
- Birmingham, AL Housing Authority.
- New York City, NY Housing Authority.
- Newark, NJ Housing Authority.
- Reno, NV Housing Authority.
- Littleton, CO Housing Authority.
- Housing Authority of the City of South Bend, IN.

Tenant Organizations and Public Interest Groups

- Bromley Heath Tenant Management Corporation, Jamaica Plains, MA.
- New Jersey Association of Public and Subsidized Housing Residents, Newark, NJ.
- Housing and Development Law Institute, Washington, DC.
- Illinois Association of Housing Authorities.

Federal Government

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The next two series of meetings of the Committee have been scheduled for April 4–5 and May 2–3, 1995 (see information under the headings **DATES** and **ADDRESSES** at the beginning of this notice). The meetings are open to the public, with limited seating available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 1437g, 3535(d).

Dated: March 13, 1995.

Michael B. Janis,

General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing.

[FR Doc. 95–6716 Filed 3–17–95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4210–33–P

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

30 CFR Chapter II

Meetings of the Indian Gas Valuation Negotiated Rulemaking Committee

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Notice of meetings.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of the Department of the Interior (Department) has established an Indian Gas Valuation Negotiated Rulemaking Committee (Committee) to develop specific recommendations with respect to Indian gas valuation under its responsibilities imposed by the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982, 30 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.* (FOGRMA). The Department has determined that the establishment of this Committee is in the public interest and will assist the Agency in performing its duties under FOGRMA.

DATES: The Committee will have meetings on the dates and at the times shown below:

Wednesday, April 12, 1995—9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, April 13, 1995—8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 9, 1995—9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 10, 1995—8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 14, 1995—9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 15, 1995—8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: These meetings will be held in the auditorium of Building 85 on the Denver Federal Center, West Sixth Avenue and Kipling Street, Lakewood, Colorado.

Written statements may be submitted to Mr. Donald T. Sant, Deputy Associate Director for Valuation and Operations, Minerals Management Service, Royalty Management Program, P.O. Box 25165, MS–3100, Denver, CO 80225–0165.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Donald T. Sant, Deputy Associate Director for Valuation and Operations, Minerals Management Service, Royalty Management Program, P.O. Box 25165,